

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

May 16, 2001

LB 536A

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...these fuel tax certificates that that's the form these credits are going to take, these fuel tax certificates will go to these petroleum people, big oil, if you will, who will blend ethanol into gasoline. Do you think we should say that those certificates, which would be a setoff against the taxes that these blenders would have to pay will apply only to ethanol-blended fuel? It could not be set off against taxes paid on other fuel, but they would apply only to ethanol-blended fuel.

SENATOR KREMER: Yes. I...I'm not sure I understand exactly how that all operates, but they're exempt from 5.4 cents on the blended fuel, and how they use that I don't know and I think it would be very good that, if it was required, that it would be used with the blended fuel rather than...it's a possibility that could be against the regular. I don't know that as a fact, but it...I think it would be good, if it's the intent for it to encourage the blend, then it be used for that purpose.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And don't you think, based on the thrust of the bill, it would be logical and make sense to do that if we're going to base some of the subsidy on taxpayers' money? If the the taxpayers are going to be asked to give money to subsidize this industry, should not everybody who's going to benefit from this have to benefit in a way that goes back to the uplift of ethanol?

SENATOR KREMER: Yes, I do. I would agree with that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I'd like to ask Senator Dierks a question now.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Dierks, would you respond?

SENATOR DIERKS: Sure.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Dierks, did you follow the exchange between Senator Kremer and me?

SENATOR DIERKS: Well, a little bit.